



6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA- HQ-OECA-2010-0291; FRL-9999-93-OECA]

### Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; State Review Framework

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), “State Review Framework (EPA ICR No. 2185.07, OMB Control No. 2020-0031) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through May 31, 2020. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before **[insert date 60 days after publication in the Federal Register]**.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID EPA- HQ-OECA-2010-0291 online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460.

EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher Knopes, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Office of Compliance; Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-564-2337; email address: knopes.christopher@epa.gov

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Supporting documents which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202-566-1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, visit <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments and information to enable it to: (i) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (ii) evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (iv) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval. At that time, EPA will issue another Federal Register notice to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB.

*Abstract: Abstract:* The State Review Framework is an oversight tool designed to assess state performance in enforcement and compliance assurance. The Framework's goal is to evaluate state performance by examining existing data to provide a consistent level of oversight and develop a uniform mechanism by which EPA Regions, working collaboratively with their states, can ensure that state environmental agencies are consistently implementing the national compliance and enforcement program in order to meet agreed-upon goals. Furthermore, the Framework is designed to foster dialogue on enforcement and compliance performance between the states that will enhance relationships and increase feedback, which will in turn lead to consistent program management and improved environmental results. This request will allow OECA to collect information from enforcement and compliance files reviewed during routine on-site visits of state or local agency offices that will assist in the evaluation of the State Review Framework implementation from FY 2020 to the end of FY 2023. It will allow also EPA to make inquiries to assess the State Review Framework process, including the consistency achieved among the EPA Regions and states, the resources required to conduct the reviews, and the overall effectiveness of the program.

*Form Numbers:* None.

*Respondents/affected entities:* States, localities, and territories.

*Respondent's obligation to respond:* Required as part of program authorization under the Clean Water, Clean Air, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Acts.

*Estimated number of respondents:* 54.

*Frequency of response:* Once every five years.

*Total estimated burden:* 2,358 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b)

*Total estimated cost:* \$86,982 (per year)

*Changes in Estimates:* There is a decrease of 36 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This decrease is due to using a different sampling of respondents to provide the hourly estimates, in addition to the respondents' continued experience with the review process and collective efforts to make the review more efficient.

**Dated:** August 29, 2019.

Christopher A. Knopes,  
**Director,**  
**Planning, Measures, and Oversight Division,**  
**Office of Compliance, OECA.**

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